

Millington Township Regular Board Meeting May 20, 2024

Regular meeting called to order at 6:00pm at the Millington Township Hall by Supervisor R. Loomis. Also present S. Keinath, A. Green, L Jaruzel and J. Sabgash

There were 17 guests in the audience.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Motion by Loomis, support by Sabgash to approve the agenda.

Ayes: All Nays: None Motion carried

Motion by Keinath, support by Jaruzel to accept the regular meeting minutes from April 15, 2024 and the special meeting minutes from April 29, 2024.

Ayes: All Nays: None Motion carried

Treasurer's report was presented. Thank you

Motion by Sabgash, support by Loomis that bills be paid as presented:

General-	\$	116,036.04
Fire-	\$	8,146.08
Police-	\$	3,874.41
Refuse-	\$	1,006.00
Murphy Lake Weed Con.	\$	5,279.33
Tax Collection	\$	809,167.03
IFT Tax Collection	\$	699.52
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Total	\$	944,208.41

Ayes: Green, Jaruzel, Loomis, Keinath and Sabgash Nays: none Motion carried.

Millington Township Fund Balances ending April 30, 2024

FUND	MIF SWEEP MONEY	MARKET SAVINGS
General	\$ 471,623.79	
Cemetery Trust Fund	2,101.88	
Fire	189,879.23	\$39,104.05
Police	372,915.32	
Refuse	123,578.83	
Murphy Lake Weed Control	23,789.86	
Capital Projects – Buildings	34,850.74	
Capital Projects - Machine & Equipment	13,473.08	
Trust & Agency	6,560.00	
Fire Damage Escrow Fund	10,075.00	
Tax Collection Fund	19,743.57	
IFT Tax Collection Fund	6,111.03	
IFT Tax Collection Fund	(19,738.13)	
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	\$ 1,254,964.20	\$39,104.05

Public Comment:

Sherry Morris: Asked if the petition signatures are vetted, J. Sabgash explained the petition process. Would like to have the STR's remain open since it was unanimously voted to approve the amendments.

Paul Dudley: With the amendments on hold the question might come up does the Township need to enforce the current ordinance, which section of the ordinance is being violated. You wouldn't want to just pinpoint two (2) STR's on the lake, you would want to enforce the ordinance for all rentals

Brandon Putman: He is running for Tuscola County Sheriff, born and raised in Tuscola County. His inspiration for running are his grandparents and to help make the streets safe again. After graduating at Caro high school he went on to study criminal justice, architecture and business. He is now in the business sector developing real estate with his family. He and his family have built 49 businesses, he has experience with managing budgets and employees and building relationships with vendors. He understands the administrative side of things.

New Business

Brian Harris: He is a 2024 candidate for Tuscola County Sheriff. He has been with the Sheriffs office for 24 years and has been a supervisor for over 20 years jail administrator since 2014. He is in charge of the jail along with the budget, 19 deputies, 4 sergeants and the inmates. He is also responsible for the vendor contracts and training for the corrections officers. A few things he would like to do if he were to become Sheriff is to establish a community relations Officer, have an open door policy, build relationships with the Boards and the Townships and be more present.

Ryan Robinson: He is running for Tuscola County Sheriff. He has 18 years of experience with the Sheriffs office, he is currently a road patrol Sergeant and a K9 handler. He graduated from SVSU with his bachelor's degree in criminal justice, then went on to sponsor himself through the police academy at Delta College where he received the Top Gun award. He started in Corrections in Tuscola County, worked in that department for close to three (3) years. In 2009 he moved to the Road Patrol, shortly after he became the Field Training Officer for Road Patrol. In 2020 he was promoted to Sergeant and became Supervisor of the field training program. If elected for Sheriff he would like to be more active in the communities, participate more in community events and bring more transparency and he plans to stay active in the community with the K9.

Amazon Prime Account: does it make sense for the Township to have an Amazon Prime account, yearly cost is roughly \$150.

Modernize and Streamline the process of Publication: Clerk received an email from Representative Matthew Bierlein's office. He is looking to introduce legislation that aims to modernize and streamline the process of publishing legal notices for local units of government in Michigan while saving Townships money. The bill offers a phased approach, allowing local officials to transition from traditional newspaper publication to electronic dissemination, ultimately reducing costs and improving accessibility for residents.

Public event about Wind and Solar Bill: We might want to consider hosting a public meeting to have Representative Bierlein come and speak about the Wind and Solar Bill. Which would allow the public to ask questions and gain knowledge on what this bill is about.

Zoning Amendments on hold – STR decision: A Notice of Intent was submitted to file a petition regarding the amendments made to the Millington Township Zoning Ordinance. The petition signatures need to be turned in by June 1, 2024, the signatures will then be verified. If all signatures are valid then the STR proposal will be put on the November 2024 ballot. The Board needs to decide to either extend the moratorium and allow STR's to continue to operate or take enforcement action and have STR's cease and desist until the requirements/verification of the petition signatures are met and/or after the November election.

Civil Infraction Policy and Procedures: The most current ordinances the Township has on file for Violation Enforcement are 96-2 and 96-3 originating in 1996. They are not very descriptive and have not policy or procedures attached to them. Based on the information received from the MTA Conference in the Enforcement Session the Zoning Administrator put together a draft civil infraction policy and procedures. This was presented to the Planning Commission as well. The Planning Commission made a motion to recommend that the Township adopt some version of the drafted policy with the suggestion that the Township seek to collaborate with the Village around possibly utilizing the Village Police Officer to issue citations.

Zoning Administrators Reports: Thank you

Old Business: None

Public Comment:

Brandon Putman: He would like to bring the Sheriff's Department back to fiscal accountability, empower the Deputies and Correction Officers to do their jobs. He believes that the Corrections, Deputies, and the Jail are all in need of improvement, with his background in the private sector he is uniquely qualified to make the necessary improvements. We need change in this County, we need a Sheriff who is involved in the Community. He would also like to have County Town Hall meetings held by the Sheriff's Department, quarterly, to hear from all the communities in Tuscola County to tackle problems together.

Mark Morris: Gave thanks to the Board for all we do and he hopes that the Board will keep the STR's open.

Diane Wood: Mecosta County totally out ruled STR's because they seen to many problems and had to get rid of them. If the Board would've followed the ordinance to begin with, we wouldn't be having this fight. She doesn't understand how we can give someone a pat on the back and grandfather them in when they broke the law and violated the ordinance.

Paul Dudley: He would like to know what ordinance the STR's are violating, before he purchased his lake house he spoke with the Township and read through the ordinance and didn't find anything discussing short term rentals, long term rentals or land contracts. Are land contracts and long term rentals legal, they are not shown in the ordinance as permissible. Maybe STR's weren't permissible and the Township Board and Planning Commission didn't know that at that time, therefore he moved forward with his STR.

Motion by Jaruzel, support by Keinath to table Amazon Prime until next month.

Ayes: All Nays: None Motion carried

Motion by Keinath, support by Loomis to table the Civil Infraction Policy until next month to clarify the enforcement.

Ayes: All Nays: None Motion carried

Motion by Loomis, support by Green to extend the moratorium on enforcement until we find out if the amendments take effect or not.

Ayes: Loomis, Green and Sabgash Nays: Keinath and Jaruzel Motion carried

Supervisors Report: Thank you

Tire Drive – Arbela Hall June 15, 2024 from 8am to 2pm

Ramsey's or Narsted's to remove decals from old Police Tahoe then send the Tahoe to Albrecht's Auction

Motion by Green, support by Keinath to adjourn.

Meeting adjourned at 7:10PM.

Jackie Sabgash, Township Clerk

UNAPPROVED XXXX
Approved _____